

4.3 Data Items: Visibility and Types



Visibility and Types

- Data Items have the ability to store a range of Data Types, though each Data Item within a Process must be assigned a specific Data Type to store.
- The most common Data Types are: Number; Text; Flag; Date; and Password.
- The less common Data Types are: DateTime; Time; Timespan; Image; and Binary.
- By default, Data Items can only be used by the Stages that are on the same Page as them. This can be changed by unchecking 'Hide from other pages in the process' box in the properties.
- By default, Stage properties only show the Data Items available on the same Page. This can be changed by checking the 'Page' and 'View All Items' boxes.

Key Point

- Data Items visible to all Pages are known as 'Global Data Items'. Data Items only visible to their own Page are known as 'Local Data Items'.

The 'Data Properties' dialog box for a Data Item named 'Number of Loops'. It shows the following settings:

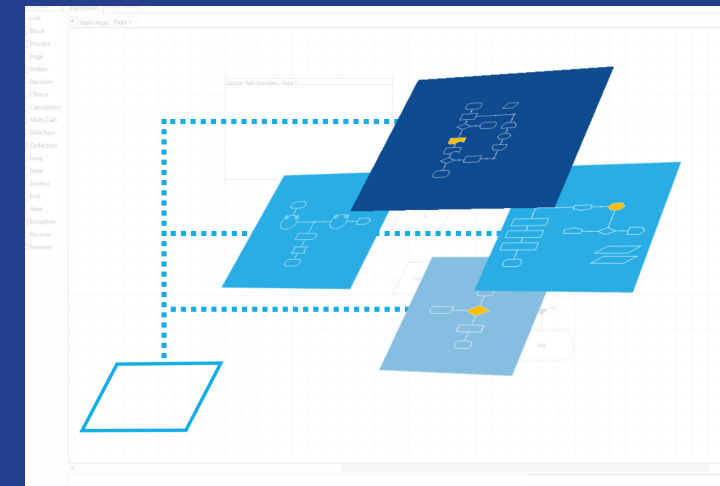
- Name: Number of Loops
- Description: (empty)
- Data Type: Number
- Initial Value: 4
- Exposure: None
- Current Value: (empty)
- Visibility: ☐ Hide from other pages in the process
- Initialisation: ☒ Reset to Initial Value whenever this page runs

Data Item properties with 'Hide from other pages in the process' un-checked.

The 'Calculation Properties' dialog box for a Calculation stage named 'Count +1'. It shows the following settings:

- Name: Count +1
- Description: (empty)
- Expression: [Loop Count] + 1
- Store Result In: ☒ Loop Count
- Functions: (list of functions including Conversion, Data, Date, Environment, Exceptions, File, Logic, Number, Text)
- Function Detail: (Expression Function Builder)
- Stage logging: Enabled
- Warning threshold: System Default
- Number of minutes: 5
- Buttons: OK, Cancel

Calculation Stage properties with 'View All Items' and 'Pages' checked.



Global Data Item - visible to all Pages in a Process.